

July 27, 1942.

Mr. Art Carter,  
3514 New Hampshire Ave. N. W.,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Art:

I am writing first of all to tell you I have engaged Counsellor Robert Hartgrove of Jersey City(I know you have heard of him)to try and bring this Mexican situation to a head. You know of course that Irvin left us early in May and this past Thursday, July 23rd Dandridge left to go play with the Pasquale Bros. There has really never been any effort made to try and stop this mass migration of Negro ballplayers to Mexico, and somebody has to make the move. As you know the ballplayers have all signed contracts to play ball here and they are simply ignoring them. Counsellor Hartgrove has already contacted the Mexican Consul in New York, the Honorable Juan E. Richer at 70 Pine Street, he is proceeding further and I believe his next move is with the State Department in Washington. If you want to contact him directly his address is: Counsellor Robert Hartgrove, 576 Newark Avenue, Jersey City. He is the Attorney for the N.A.A. C.P. in Jersey, consequently is well versed in fighting battles for our Race.

Next, I am sending you under separate cover a picture of Leon Day. I thought you would be interested in a store on him, as he is a Baltimore boy. Dan Burley has a story this week in the Amsterdam listing the various Negro ballplayers that he felt that would be major league material. In the case of Day he said the thing that would handicap Day in making the majors would be his age, as he is too old. For your information Day is just 24 years old. He came to us in 1935 the first year we had the team, when he was 17. I realize our papers are handicapped by the lack of statistics from the League office, but in the case of the Eagles you all have a list of the players with such information as this, age, weight, height, etc., there is no excuse for printing a story, knocking a man like Day on some information that one is guessing at.

You probably saw the game in Baltimore last Friday when the Eagles played the Elites. Day pitched and struck out 18 men, which I understand is a League record. The first man up in the first



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inning Butts got the only hit of the game, two errors enabled him to score a run, the Eagles won the game 3 - 1. This game in which Day struck out 18 Elites is just a sample of the kind of ball he plays consistently. He is as good an outfielder and infielder as he is a pitcher. In addition he is a perfect gentleman, and his wife says he is the finest husband a woman ever had. A man with a record like this deserves only the highest praise. If the majors ever decided to break down the barrier and use colored boys, they could not choose a better man or one more deserving of any advancement he could possibly get.

I am especially anxious to get over to the public that he is very young. I believe there are not many ballplayers in the majors younger than him. With the Eagles as short as they have been all season, with the additional handicap of the boys running to Mexico, Day has almost consistently been called on to pitch one of the games of a doubleheader and play in the outfield the next. He has never complained the tiniest bit. He cannot be praised too highly, and I believe he is one of those individuals who will be able to wear a success crown without letting it go to his head in changing his disposition.

Hope this letter has not been too long. Would you like me to keep you further informed about the Mexican situation?

Very truly yours,

EM:CCJ